

To: The Home Secretary  
Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary  
and Fire and Rescue Services

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17 April 2020

Dear Home Secretary and HMICFRS

***Response from David Munro, Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey to the National HMICFRS report 'National Child Protection Inspections'***

I welcome this report which quite rightly focusses on the need to protect and safeguard children and assess progress made by police and partners nationally. I am pleased to see the commitment of police in this area recognised and that progress has been made. But we must ensure that this is consistent nationally and that partners play their part.

I have asked the Chief Constable, Gavin Stephens, for his views on the report, to which he has said:

*"I welcome the National Child Protection Inspections 2019 thematic report released on 27th February 2020. Surrey Police, as one of the statutory safeguarding partners alongside Children Services in the County Council and Health, are working closely to improve the lives of children living and growing up in Surrey under the newly established Surrey Safeguarding Children Executive. Across the partnership the initial priorities are focussed on:*

1. *Thresholds for referral management*
2. *The issue of neglect*
3. *Domestic Abuse*
4. *Contextual Safeguarding including serious violence, knife crime and exploitation.*
5. *Emotional Wellbeing and Child and Adolescent mental health Services (CAMHS).*
6. *Children with SEN and Disabilities*
7. *Historical Abuse*

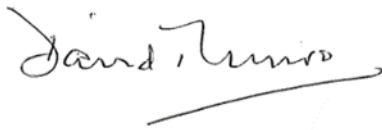
*These new arrangements commenced in September 2019 and I am confident that they address much of the learning that is derived from the thematic report, combined with my drive to make Surrey a force that addresses problem solving and takes*

*preventative action where possible. This provides evidence of Surrey Police's desire to continually look to identify opportunities to improve and innovate, alongside our partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.*

*The recommendations from the thematic report are recorded and monitored through our governance structures and the strategic lead will oversee their implementation."*

Given this response and reports I have received, I am content with the focus being placed on protecting children in Surrey. I also welcome the invitation from the Surrey Safeguarding Children Executive to extend membership beyond the three statutory partners of Police, SCC Children's Services and Health to include the OPCC, along with education and district and borough councils. This maximises the effectiveness of governance arrangements and the impact they have on safeguarding practice and outcomes for children in the county and my office has a continued commitment to strengthen and deepen our partnership working in Surrey. I shall be monitoring progress of policing through my regular meetings with the Chief Constable and of partnership arrangements through the Safeguarding Executive and Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Munro". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the right.

**David Munro**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**